



# THE COAST GUARD RESERVIST

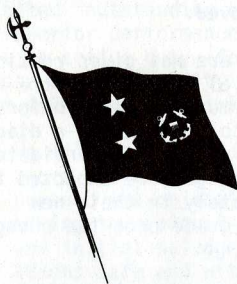
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION • UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

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## THE ADMIRAL'S CORNER

Some important changes have been announced in the direct petty officer program that affect both those who enlisted in the Coast Guard Reserve prior to 1 January 1975 and those who enlisted after that date.

Direct petty officers who enlisted prior to 1 January 1975 and had not previously qualified for permanent E-4 or higher were designated permanent E-4 as of 1 January 1975. In order to remain in the Selected Reserve (drill pay status), all must complete REBI school and either a 2-week rate training course or the E-4 correspondence course. Additionally, provisional E-5's or E-6's must qualify for permanent in the grade held or request reduction to permanent E-4.

Those who fail to meet these requirements will be removed from the Selected Reserve and placed in the Individual Ready Reserve on 1 July 1976 if three years total service has been completed or thereafter upon completion of three years service. Further details are contained in Change 1 to COMDTNOTE 1414 of 20 Jan 1975.

Direct Petty Officers who enlist after 1 January 1975 are being accepted only as E-4's in certain ratings based on civilian skills. This program is open to non-prior-service applicants between the ages of 26-35 for males or 20-35 for females. COMDTINST 1130.17 is the governing directive.

There has been some criticism of the direct petty officer program from reservists who entered as SA's and made petty officer the hard way. To these reservists I would like to point out that most of our direct petty officers are young women who had no requirement to serve and would have been unavailable if required to perform extended initial training duty. The secretarial and accounting skills they possess represent a significant gain for the Coast Guard Reserve mostly in the YN and SK ratings where help was sorely needed.

The relatively small number of men who were enlisted were above draft age and were primarily skilled fire fighters, law enforcement agents, electricians, diesel mechanics and charter boat operators. They also were brought in to fill specific needs of the Coast Guard Reserve.

The enlistment of direct petty officers has not impeded or restricted the advancement of other reservists. Furthermore, all of these direct petty officers with already acquired civilian skills, must fulfill Coast Guard training requirements for retention in the Selected Reserve or permanent rate advancement.

I am counting on our direct petty officers to complete the required training and I particularly urge the provisional E-5's and E-6's to qualify for permanent. The commanding officer of each of these

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## CGRU Elizabeth City Wins ROA Award

Coast Guard Reserve Unit Elizabeth City (N.C.) has won the Reserve Officers Association (ROA) Congressional Award for Fiscal Year 1974.

The award, sponsored each year by the Washington, D.C. Chapter of the ROA, is presented annually to the Coast Guard Reserve unit considered to be the most outstanding in terms of the "citizen-sailor" concept.

Coast Guard Reserve Unit Louisville (Ky.) was named runner-up for FY 1974. Both the 1972 and 1973 awards had been won by CGRU Portland (Ore.) II.

The board appointed by the sponsor to select the ROA Congressional Award winner noted that the "selection was made from several which gave keen competition and all should be proud of their accomplishments." Arrangements for presentation of the award trophy will be announced later.

CGRU Elizabeth City fulfilled its FY 1974 recruiting goal of 30 recruits within the first six months of the year. The men of the unit built tables and shelters at recreational areas in Virginia and North Carolina and reconditioned motor lifeboats for the Sea Scouts. They remodeled the Enlisted Men's Club and refurbished the recreational boat dock at the Elizabeth City Coast Guard Air Base.

Elizabeth City reservists did remodeling and repair work on a computer complex and two classrooms on the Air Base, saving the Government more than \$30,000.

More than 400 man-hours per month were spent augmenting at the Air Base and at Group Cape Hatteras. The unit provided Boatswain's Mates, Quartermasters, and Machinery Tech-

see ROA Award, page 4



## TRAINING HINTS

# Lateral and Diagonal Rating Changes Available to Reservists

Unhappy with your rating? Feel you could qualify for a higher pay grade in a different rating? There are ways that a rating in the Coast Guard Reserve can be changed.

In fact, there are three different ways a reservist can change ratings. The first requires no action on the part of the individual. This is called an en masse change and is done by the Commandant as the needs of the service require.

When ratings are consolidated or when new ratings are established, all persons affected are assigned new ratings. Such a change occurred with the establishment of the photographer's rating. All former photographer's mates and journalists were changed laterally by the Commandant to the new rating.

The reservist must initiate the second way to change ratings -- a lateral change of rating. Authorization to prepare for lateral changes of rating are granted by Commandant (G-RT) when it appears that such a change is in the best interest of the Coast Guard Reserve. Determination is made on the basis of a request submitted by the reservist with endorsement from the unit commanding officer and the district commander.

An authorization to prepare for lateral change is likely to be granted if there is not an over population (in terms of mobilization requirements) in the rating requested or if there is not a shortage of personnel in the current rating. If there is over population or under population in both ratings the authorization to prepare for change may be granted.

Persons having "A" School training normally will not have a lateral request approved because of the significant investment made by the Coast Guard in providing the training. Persons E-7 and above are not likely to have lateral requests approved since their investment in time and experience in the old rating would be wasted with a change.

An individual desiring lateral change to the hospital corpsman rating is not likely to receive approval unless evidence of strong training and experience in the medical field exists. A corpsman needs supervised training and on-the-job experience beyond correspondence course work and annual active duty for training.

The number of lateral changes

approved has increased in recent months. A change authorization merely permits training for the requested rating.

The reservist must meet all advancement requirements for the same pay grade in the new area -- practical factors completion, correspondence course completion (including end-of-course test), and successful competition in the servicewide examination

While authorization to prepare for the change may come relatively easily, the change itself is not effected until these requirements are satisfied.

A diagonal change is the third method of obtaining a different rating in the Coast Guard Reserve. This change allows individuals to utilize civilian skills to qualify for a change of pay grade, either up or down, in addition to the rating change.

An individual may request just one diagonal change. The correspondence course is not required, but the individual must compete successfully in the servicewide exam for the rate and rating requested. The diagonal candidate may take the ser-

vicewide only once while the lateral candidate may take it twice if necessary.

Application requirements for diagonal changes are very similar to those for lateral changes although professional qualification must be specified more clearly. If authorization to prepare for a diagonal change is denied it is possible that preparation for a lateral change may be authorized. Such a change for a direct petty officer, however, would be highly unlikely until provisional status was removed.

Diagonals are not given routinely. A high level of skill in the requested rating must be shown before authorization to prepare for a diagonal change is approved. Candidates for diagonal changes are expected to perform immediately in their new rating and pay grade once the change is effected.

Lateral and diagonal changes are important options for a reservist. Since they may have a significant effect on an individual's career, such changes should not be requested lightly. Requirements and application procedures are outlined in Section 6-10-0 of the Reserve Administrative Manual, CG-296.

## RAPIC Completes Six Months of CG Assistance

The Chicago-based RAPIC (Recruiting Assistance and Public Information Council) completed its initial six months of assistance to the Coast Guard in December 1974.

Originally conceived a year earlier by current chairman CAPT Bill C. VENDL, USCGR as an aid to recruiting, the Council has enjoyed success in a variety of public information areas.

RAPIC, a service-oriented, non-profit organization, is all-volunteer. Time spent on RAPIC projects by Coast Guardsmen is in addition to other service commitments.

A total of 48 members - Regular, reservist, and auxiliary - donated 3,058 man-hours to the Coast Guard through participation in RAPIC projects.

On-going projects include the formation of a speaker's bureau and an organization to coordinate Coast Guard participation in Chicago-area parades. RAPIC works closely with the Fleet Hometown News Service to

publicize the Coast Guard and to aid recruiting. Almost 250 man-hours were spent on these three projects alone.

The council also has assisted the Coast Guard Auxiliary in its AIM (Academy Introduction Mission) program.

Among its other projects, RAPIC sponsored Coast Guard nights at professional football, basketball, and hockey contests in Chicago.

A fund-raising One Coast Guard Ball held in August 1974 netted a profit of almost \$800 which will be spent on other RAPIC-sponsored projects.

The Miss Coast Guard Chicago contest and participation in the Chicago Lakefront Festival further publicized the service.

The council devoted 660 man-hours to radio and television commercials, appearing on 78 radio and nine television shows.



# Chief SOPER Earns Commendation Medal

Chief Petty Officer Wesley S. SOPER, USCGR was awarded the Coast Guard Commendation Medal in a 9 March 1975 ceremony at Base Gloucester City (NJ) for his actions after a tanker explosion eleven months earlier.

Chief Firefighter SOPER was cited for his key role in preventing further loss of life and in minimizing pollution after the Greek tanker ELIAS exploded in the Port of Philadelphia on the night of 9 April 1974.

Chief SOPER, according to the citation accompanying the award, exhibited "outstanding achievement and superior performance of duty while on active duty (for training) at Base Gloucester City from 13 April 1974 to 25 April 1974."

He willingly worked long hours and tenaciously pursued the objective of making the removal of oil and initial salvage operations safe and without further uncontrollable oil discharge. Additionally, Chief Petty Officer SOPER established a close working relationship with...a number of federal, state, and local individuals to insure that no communications problem existed.

FIC SOPER, a member of Coast Guard Reserve Unit Base Gloucester, is a native of Seattle, Wash. He has lived in Bellmawr, N.J. for more

than 20 years. He and his wife are the parents of three sons, one of whom is a former Coast Guardsman.

As a civilian he is employed by the Factory Insurance Association as a senior engineer, specializing in fire prevention and protection for industrial complexes in the Philadelphia metropolitan area.

Chief SOPER is a veteran of more than 34 years of service in the Navy and Coast Guard. He was present during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, serving aboard the destroyer USS MUGFORD. He also is a veteran of other action in the Pacific during World War II, including the invasions of Guadalcanal and Tulagi.

More recently, he responded to the oil pollution at Marcus Hook (PA) on the Delaware River after



two tankers collided on 31 January 1975. There he led the first contingent aboard the Greek tanker SS CORINTHOS after the fires had been extinguished.

## Reserve Strike Team Aids Barge Salvage Operation

Members of the Thirteenth Coast Guard District Seattle (WA) Reserve Strike Team helped avert a "major maritime and environmental disaster" after a barge with 22,500 barrels of black oil ran aground in Puget Sound near Whidbey Island.

The tug RELIEF towing the barge UT-12 ran aground and sank on the west side of the island. The barge was grounded in seas ranging from 10 to 15 feet with winds exceeding 35 knots.

Commander, Thirteenth Coast District dispatched Coast Guard units to the scene, including the Pacific Strike Team and the Seattle Reserve Strike Team. The Reserve Strike Team, placed on voluntary emergency Active Duty for Training, was underway within 45 minutes and operational less than three hours later.

Heading the Reserve team was CDR J.G. OREWILER, USCGR of CGRU Seattle South. Other members of the Strike Team responding were LCDR B.D. WEYERMANN, USCGR and GMC R.J. ROZON, USCGR. YN3 L.D. HARNDEN, USCGR, who was augmenting Port Security Station Seattle, accompanied COTP Seattle personnel to the scene.

The Reserve Strike Team supported the Coast Guard on-scene-commander throughout the three-day response effort and, in conjunction with members of COTP Seattle and the Pacific Strike Team, provided OODs, watchstanders, beach patrols, and a mobile command post with radio and landline communications.

The barge did not rupture and successful salvage operations were made after the weather moderated.

CAPT Paul YOST, USCG, the on-scene-commander, called the contributions of the Reserve Strike Team "critical to the success of this mission. Their performance was in keeping with the highest traditions of the Coast Guard." He commended the reservists for "a job well done."

## Ohio Woman Wins Local CGR Award

Senior Chief Yeoman Irene E. COLLETTE, USCGR was the recipient of the first annual "Coast Guard Reservist of the Year" award presented by the Toledo (Ohio) Area Chamber of Commerce.

YNCS COLLETTE received the award on 16 January 1975 at the annual Military Affairs Committee dinner of the local Chamber of Commerce. She is a member of Coast Guard Reserve Unit Toledo.

Louis M. Thomson, Jr., director of the Toledo Labor-Management-Citizens Committee and Senior Chief COLLETTE's civilian employer, presented the award plaque to her.

Awards were made to the outstanding members of each of seven Toledo-area Reserve components of the Armed Forces on the basis of duty performance, leadership ability, and community service.

The purpose of the awards program is to help foster individual and unit pride and to provide for community recognition of service. Employers of the award recipients were also recognized.



YNCS Irene E. COLLETTE receives award from her civilian employer, Mr. Louis M. Thomson, Jr.



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petty officers is requested to provide maximum possible assistance. Each direct petty officer was brought in to fill a specific billet in the Coast Guard Selected Reserve. All are needed to continue to utilize their skills in support of the Coast Guard, in peacetime augmentation and in a national emergency should the need arise.

*J. E. Johansen*

## Reservist Receives Achievement Medal

Quartermaster First Class Robert K. STONE, USCGR was presented with the Coast Guard Achievement Medal at a 14 December 1974 awards ceremony held at the Hensley Field Naval Air Station in Dallas, Texas.

Petty Officer STONE was cited for his meritorious act of 8 June 1974 while assigned to the Coast Guard Boating Safety Team detached to Lake Texoma, Texas.

After finishing his day's assignment, he observed a small child underwater in the swimming pool of a local motel. Danny

Warren, age eight of Tyler, Texas, had been knocked unconscious after diving into the pool.

The boy's body coloration began to darken as STONE pulled him from the water. He immediately started administering mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

After several minutes the boy began to revive and continued to a full recovery. Petty Officer STONE's immediate response and skill saved the boy's life.

The Achievement Medal was the second award Petty Officer STONE received this year. Earlier he had been named 1974 Enlisted Reservist of the Year for CGRU Law Enforcement Dallas for his contribution to the unit's Boating Safety program.

## Coleman New DOT Secretary

William T. COLEMAN, Jr. became the nation's fourth Secretary of Transportation on 7 March, 1975 when he was administered the oath of office by President Gerald R. Ford in a ceremony at the White House. President Ford nominated Secretary COLEMAN to the cabinet position on 14 January 1975. The Senate confirmed his nomination on 3 March.

## Reserve Officer Promotion Status

The status of inactive duty Reserve officer promotions to LT through CAPT as of 1 May 1975 is shown below. Listed are the names and signal numbers of the junior officers on the latest selection lists for whom vacancies exist and whose running mates have been promoted. In addition, the officer's position on the selection list and the number remaining on that list are shown.

Junior Reached	Signal Number	Position On List	Number Left
CAPT - August H. DOUGLAS, Jr.	167	11	6
CDR - Philip L. ADAIR	749	99	0
LCDR - Richard F. SANDERS	1569	70	0
LT - Christopher L. VAIS	3308	151	94

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nicians to Coast Guard stations along the Outerbanks of North Carolina.

The runner-up, CGRU Louisville provided 71 man-days of domestic emergency assistance during the April 1974 tornadoes that killed 10, injured 220, and caused extensive damage in the Louisville area.

In augmentation activity, Louisville reservists conducted boat patrols at MSO Louisville, assisted local recruiters, and augmented the Louisville Vessel Traffic System during periods of high water during the year.

Additionally, the unit provided hospital corpsmen for emergency room duty at Louisville General, donated time to Sea Scout instruction, and participated in scheduled oil pollution clean-ups with local organizations.

## Coast Guard Reservist

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Members of the Coast Guard Reserve are invited to submit articles of interest to the Editor of RESERVIST for possible publication.

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